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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

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The Honorable Collin C. Peterson
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Peterson:

As the 2010 Fiscal Year draws to a close, farmers and ranchers are reminded that the next farm bill must be in place within two short years. Federal budget deficits and growing national debt mean that implementing a farm safety net will be ever more difficult. In anticipation of this and other challenges, you started hearings for the 2012 Farm Bill this past April. Thank you for having the foresight to take that proactive step.

Following the first hearing in Washington, which featured U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, the Committee held nine field hearings in nine different states. These hearings were productive and will help members of the Committee make decisions in the coming months.

As this process continues, I would like to respectfully request a field hearing in my home state of Kansas. Kansas is among the top-ten states that produce cattle and calves, corn, hay, hogs, soybeans, and sunflowers, while leading all states in production of beef, sorghum, and wheat. Agriculture is not only critical to the one in five Kansans employed in agriculture and food production, but to all those across the nation who consume the food grown in the state.

In February, my fellow Kansas colleague, U.S. Representative Lynn Jenkins, also requested a farm bill field hearing in Kansas. I support her earlier request and hope that you will give Kansas serious consideration as the next location to gather information for the 2012 Farm Bill.

Very truly yours,

Jerry Moran

Jerry Moran

Cc: U.S. Representative Frank Lucas, Ranking Member, House Committee on Agriculture
U.S. Representative Lynn Jenkins, Second District of Kansas